

# Danfe

ISSUE 09  
OCT-DEC 2021



CHASING THE DEMONS | DELVING INTO MALAYSIA | TOWARDS DOLPA



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# PRESIDENT'S LETTER



**Namaste Atithi,**

Welcome onboard!

Himalaya Airlines is happy to present to you this issue of our inflight magazine-Danfe. It is a special issue for us as we have re-started publication after the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, this issue onwards we do hope that Danfe shall once again become a source of inflight entertainment and information for our valued passengers.

The year 2020 was a challenging one. However, as it is said that with great challenges comes great opportunities, H9 family takes pride in the fact that we have been able to serve our customers through our schedule flights for passengers and cargo during times of crisis.

Throughout the past one and a half year, we have operated passenger flights in several sectors such as Dammam, Doha, Dubai, Kuala Lumpur and Riyadh. We have also operated cargo flights in sectors such as Nanning and Kunming. I am also very proud to share with our readers that our team successfully transported Vero Cell vaccines for philanthropy. It was definitely a historic moment for H9 as we were able to operate repatriation flights on humanitarian ground from several destinations to support the Government of Nepal in its fight with the pandemic.

The most significant achievement for Himalaya family last year has been the launch of online ticket booking engine that allows our passengers to make booking through its website. Various features such as online payment, flight and fare search, refunds and membership services are made available through the platform. We do also have great plans to extend our online services further, keeping in mind the convenience of our guests and passengers.

We are always geared up to serve you better and look forward to receiving your continuous love and support. With these few thoughts, Himalaya Airlines wishes you a very happy Vijaya Dashami, Deepawali, Chhath, Udhauli and Tamu Loshar.

Thank you for flying with H9 and we hope to see you onboard soon again!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be '周恩勇' (Zhou Enyong).

ZHOU ENYONG

PRESIDENT



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This journey combines some of the best of what travel has to offer: dusty off roads, dense green forest, crystal clear water, diversity of landscapes and of course the pure Shey Phoksundo Lake.

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### HOROSCOPE TRAITS

Know your zodiac signs with personality traits, relationship details and prospect during the last quarter (October-December) for 2021.

Commercial Head  
Sun Cheng

Production Manager  
Jyoti Sharma

Editorial & Design Team  
Aaditi Khanal  
Bibek Duwal  
Suraj Dhonju

## FESTIVAL

# CALENDAR



**7<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> October**

### DASHAIN

The biggest festival of Nepal, Dashain is celebrated to rejoice victory of good over evil. Dashain is the grandest, longest and most auspicious festival celebrated in Nepal. It is the time for family reunions, exchange of gifts and blessings, and elaborate pujas. Dashain is generally celebrated during Nepali month of Ashwin which falls in between the month of September to October according to solar calendar.



**3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> November**

### TIHAR

Tihar is also known as the festival of lights. It is one of the most celebrated festivals, second to Dashain. Oil lamps, candles and lanterns are lighted throughout the festival which is celebrated for 5 days. Tihar is also known as Deepawali, Yamapanchak or Swanti. This festival is celebrated to honour the Yama (God of death) and is also dedicated for worshipping Goddess Laxmi (Goddess of wealth).

**10<sup>th</sup> November**

### CHHATH PARVA

Mostly celebrated by married women from Mithila region of both Nepal and India, Chhath parva is also known as Dala Chhath and Surya Shasthi. The quintessential aspect of the festival is worshipping the Sun or Surya (in Sanskrit). Women gather at banks of rivers and ponds for holy baths, prayers and worshipping the Sun while also fasting during the festival.

**19<sup>th</sup> December**

### UDHAULI

Udhauri is celebrated by the Kirat, an indigenous community hailing from eastern hills of Nepal. The word Udhauri is formed with combination of 'Udho' and 'Auli' which literally means downward movement and is concerned with migration of people from hills to warmer plains during winter season. Hence, this festival is celebrated during Mangsir purnima (full moon night) which generally falls during the month of December according to the solar calendar.

**30<sup>th</sup> December**

### TAMU LOSHAR

The word 'Tamu' is used to denote people belonging to Gurung community of Nepal and the word 'Loshar' literally means New Year. Therefore, Tamu Loshar is known as New Year of Gurung people. The festival symbolizes beginning of Tamu sambat and is celebrated every year during Nepali date of Poush 15 (which falls in between months of December to January according to the solar calendar).



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BENUMBED AVIATION INDUSTRY

# THE AFTERMATH OF PANDEMIC



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**THE INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS  
WERE ALL CANCELLED IN NEPAL  
FROM MARCH, 2020 UNTIL  
SEPTEMBER 2020.**

Empty airline check-in counters and vacant airports was the scenario Tribhuvan International Airport of Nepal and many other airports around the world since past one and half years. Such melancholic scenes created an unpleasantly different experience at the airports all over for many. The hustle and bustle of travellers at international airports was completely restricted as Covid-19 pandemic led to strict border closures and restraints forbidding people from travelling. Even today, the international travelling patterns have been highly affected and impacts felt by aviation industry is deep and massive.

Furthermore, rules and regulations such as mandatory Covid-19 tests before travel, quarantine related protocols, entry to only specific group of people and even complete travel ban imposed by authorities of different destinations has led to a serious decline in the number of passengers



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## IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON INTERNATIONAL PASSENGER TRAFFIC IN 2020

Airlines	Passenger drop % in 2020
Nepal Airlines	-62.77
Qatar Airways	-67.32
Himalaya Airlines	-48.95
Fly Dubai	-73.63
Air Arabia	-70.19
Indigo Air	-70.78
Air India	-82.90
Malindo Air	-76.37
Malaysian Airlines	-68.88
Thai Airways	-83.62

(Source: The Kathmandu Post, 2021)

for airlines companies. As such, among the various businesses that run under aviation industry which are passenger and cargo airlines, aircraft manufacturing companies, airport managing companies, Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs), catering and other service providing companies, passenger airlines have observed severe impacts. More specifically so, the pandemic has had a serious toll on airlines business.

It is already well-known that growth of commercial aviation is intrinsically linked with tourism, trade, travel and connectivity. UNWTO, a specialized agency of United Nations has stated that there has been a decline in international tourism receipts between USD 910 to 1,170 billion in 2020, compared to USD 1.5 trillion generated in 2019, with 100 percent of worldwide destinations having travel restrictions. As the data reflect, Nepali aviation industry has also been bearing perils of the ongoing pandemic.

Let us ponder upon in detail about the case of Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA), which is the only international airport in Nepal. TIA has seen a huge decline in passenger flow in the past year. The passenger traffic declined by 73.29% and only 1.10 million international passengers travelled through the

airport which is a loss of 3.03 million passengers whereas aircraft movement had a 68.4% decline with only around ten thousand take-offs and landings as compared to the previous years.

The international flights were all cancelled in Nepal from March, 2020 until September 2020. Regular flights were disrupted and only few repatriation and rescue flights with prior permission from the government were able to operate during this time. The state was also on a complete lockdown from March 24, 2020 and with the ban on international and domestic flights along with a complete lockdown, travellers were unable to enter as well as depart the country. A sad and challenging reality is that the Tribhuvan International Airport saw lowest passenger traffic since 2003 as an impact of the pandemic in 2020.

As per the reports, a breakdown by airlines shows that Nepal Airlines witnessed a 62.77 percent drop in passenger numbers last year. Doha-

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## TRIBHUVAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SAW LOWEST PASSENGER TRAFFIC SINCE 2003 AS AN IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC IN 2020.





based Qatar Airways took the second-spot also witnessing a 67.32 percent drop in the numbers of passenger's from 2019. Himalaya Airlines, however, jumped to the third place from seventh despite recording a 48.95 percent fall in passenger numbers.

Dubai-based low-cost carrier saw its passenger carriage drop by 73.63 percent managing to hold on to fourth position. Air Arabia's passenger number was down by 70.19 percent and Indigo Air which is India's low-cost carrier saw its passenger number drop by 70.78 percent. India's flag carrier, Air India saw the strongest passenger drop which was down by 82.90 percent in 2020. Similarly, China Southern Airlines incurred a huge drop in the figure which was by 90 percent.

The pandemic and its aftermath have clearly indicated that aviation sector is presently experiencing one of the worst crisis in history.

As a result, international, national and institutional collaborations become crucial in order to emerge out of such unprecedented situation. Aviation industry can only operate on standards and standard practices that are to be implemented via joint efforts in order to deliver safe, secure effective, and conveniently accessible services. Support from the government in various form which could be subsidies, tax breaks and equity/capital injection among other measures as well as a solid and visionary recovery strategy deem to be essential for the Nepalese aviation sector to survive and thrive!

# DELVING INTO MALAYSIA

## *The Cuisine*

**I**nfluenced by the Chinese, Indian and Malay, the Malaysian cuisine is one such delicacy that surely ranks very high. So, next time when you are in Malaysia, you must let your taste buds savor the pleasure!

As diverse as the country is, the food around Malaysia is no different. Wide ranging options are available when it comes to Malaysian food. One can easily locate authentic Chinese food in cities like Kuala Lumpur, Penang and Malacca along with Indian food and home-cooked Malaya specialties. The variety in food comes along with a great history of migration that took place in Malaysia as migrants arrived to the country over centuries from Middle East, China, India and Indonesia. The Malaysian food also shares similarities with Singaporean and Indonesian food, thanks to the shared histories of the three nations along with their proximities and similar ethnic makeup.

The major staple food of Malaysia like many other







Asian countries is rice. Nasi Lemak, Satay and Laksa are the national dishes while sambal is a primary condiment which is enjoyed with many Malaysian meals.

Among the various dishes, Nasi Lemak reigns supreme. Typically eaten for breakfast, it is simple and quick to prepare. It is made up of rice and tiny quantities of fried little anchovies, fried peanuts, cucumber slices, and a boiled or fried egg. This dish can be served on a plate or wrapped in a banana leaf for take-away. But it is also the sambal, a crimson and thick paste prepared with chilies, onion, ginger, garlic, anchovies, and a few other spices that makes this meal unique.

In terms of street food, Malaysia seems to be highly influenced from neighboring Thailand. Apom, steam rice cake, fried banana, and the popular and tasty apam balik, which are pancakes packed with peanuts, may be obtained at little booths that appear several hours a day in certain spots across the city and a plethora of other delectable alternatives, including appetizers, many of which are fried. So, while in Malaysia, you can delight yourself eating out at countless street hawkers and restaurants and enjoy meal after meal and be grateful for the lip-smacking food. The interesting cross-cultural food mash-ups is a unique aspect to this part of the world.

# DELVING INTO MALAYSIA

## *Batu Caves*

**L**ocated in Malaysia's southernmost state of Penang, Batu caves are named after Lord Murugan, who defeated the demons in Hindu mythology. One of the major tourist attraction of the peninsular nation, it is composed of three major caves and several smaller ones. One of these is the famous Hindu Temple. It is believed that the structure was built around 400 million years ago.

The presence of these caves remained unknown for a long time. It wasn't until the end of nineteenth century that an American scientist by chance discovered them. A modest altar was constructed in the vast cave, which was eventually dubbed as the Temple Cave. Even though many more religious monuments have been added to the cave since its discovery, the 100-metre-high cave itself still remains to be most striking.

The Batu Caves are easily reached from Kuala Lumpur. Just take the Komuter Train to Laluan Route and hop on a taxi or ride with Malaysia's version of Uber. The Cathedral Cave features several Hindu shrines. Also at the foot of Batu Hill are the Art Gallery Cave and the Museum Cave. Many colorful gods portraying Hindu mythology may be found in a smaller cave on a lower level.





Every year in late January or early February, hundreds of thousands of Hindu devotees visit the caverns to celebrate the Thaipusam holiday. Many attendees participate in different acts of devotion and control over their senses as part of the festival's traditions, such as piercing the skin, tongue, or cheeks. This is done as a penance and as a mark of devotion to Lord Murugan, the Hindu deity. A 140-foot-tall gold monument of Murugan also sits at the entrance to the cave.

The only way to access to Batu Caves used to be a perilous climb up 272 rickety wooden stairs, but they've now been replaced with sturdier concrete. However, almost 300 stairs must still be ascended, the caves' uppermost levels may be inaccessible to individuals with mobility difficulties. Nevertheless, there is still much to do on the ground floor.



Photograph by: Krishna Moorthy D



Photograph by: Laurentiu Morariu

The steps are now recognized for their riotous rainbow of diverse colours, making Batu Caves one of the most colorful tourist sites in the world, in addition to its incredible height. Although the technicolor staircases are contentious among conservators and traditionalists, most visitors love them.

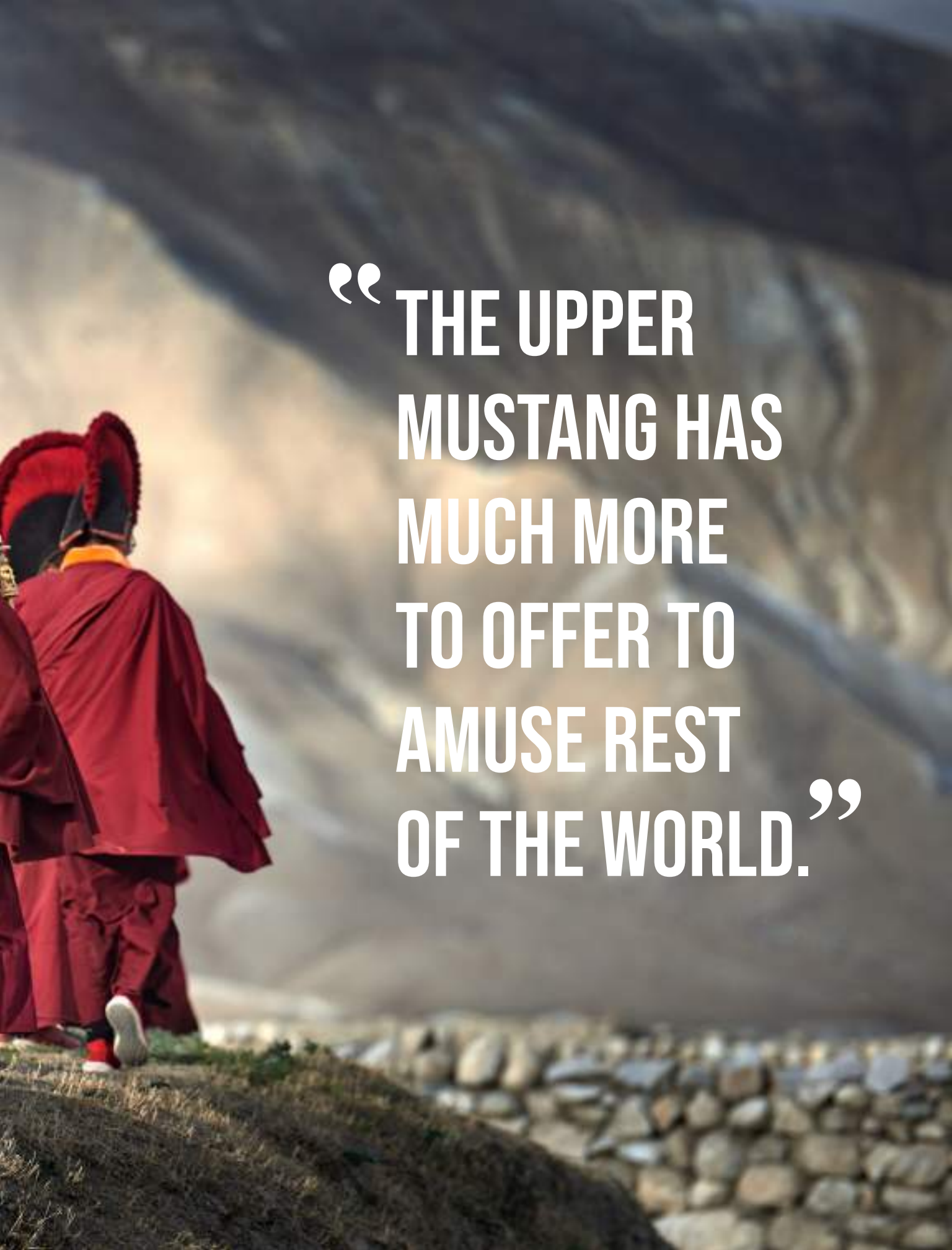
It is said that the caves attract almost 5000 tourists every day. If you plan to spend some time exploring the Batu Caves, don't forget to carry along plenty of water, snacks, and sunscreen!



# CHASING THE DEMONS





A Buddhist monk in maroon robes is walking away from the camera on a dirt path. The monk is wearing a large, ornate red and black hat. In the background, there is a stone wall and a mountain range under a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**“THE UPPER  
MUSTANG HAS  
MUCH MORE  
TO OFFER TO  
AMUSE REST  
OF THE WORLD.”**







Known as the last forbidden kingdom due to its rugged nature that was least explored till recent past, Upper Mustang has much more to offer to amuse rest of the world. One such highly preserved culture and heritage is celebration of a 3 day masked dance celebration towards the end of May, popularly known as Tiji Festival. It is believed that the festival is being celebrated since 15th century. It is the most important festival of Lo Manthang. Initially practiced as a religious ceremony to ward off obstacles of the land, Tiji has now become an embodiment of people's hopes and aspirations.

Every element of Tiji gives a regal and majestic feeling from the rolling drums, to the ancient thangka (religious scroll painting) of Padmasambhava (Guru Rinpoche) brought from Lo Manthang Palace wrapped in clouds of incense. The thangka is displayed at the main square by monks. And so, the grandest festival of Lo which is celebrated by people of Lo Tso Dhun (7 provinces of Upper Mustang) begins.

All about celebrating triumph of good over evil, Tiji is based on a myth of a deity named Dorje Shunnu (Vajrakila) who is said to have defeated demons and evil forces. Through the power of his dances and variety of avatars, he was able to defeat the demons and bring peace and prosperity to the kingdom. Hence, during the 3 festive days, various personifications of Dorje Shunnu are revealed which is a true treat for tourists and visitors. It is also believed that simply attending Tiji will bring merit to its observers.

The main dancer portraying various avatars of the deity is known as tsowo who is a monk and also the leader of the ceremony. Chosen from among the monks of Lo Manthang's Choede Monastery, tsowo is selected through a detailed process and must be well versed in scriptures pertaining to the dance and also be able to recite it orally while performing. Before

the dance execution, tsowo must remain in a 3 months isolation in the monastery to prepare and purify his mind and soul. The dance steps are very traditional and intricate which have been passed down over the years from one teacher to another.

Torma which are special sculptures made of butter and barley flour are prepared as offerings that are fashioned into various designs and painted red (indicating wrathfulness) and white (indicating peace). A wide variety of masks are also used for the dances depicting different forms of gods and animals. Along with it, the costumes are also very attractive which are long and flowing, multi layered silk and brocade gowns. They are complimented with elaborate headgears of different shapes.

The festival is graced by Gyalpo (King) and Gyalmo (Queen) of the Kingdom and also attended by at least 2 representatives from each village development committee. The village trails that lead to Lo Manthang are packed with locals and mule caravans heading towards the capital to participate in Tiji celebrations.

Many international and local tourists have started visiting Lo to observe and experience Tiji. Anyone interested in Tibetan Buddhism cultural practices and heritages is highly recommended to visit Lo Manthang during this festival. It will definitely be a lifetime experience and the extraordinary and unexpected scenes of celebration will leave a lasting impression.



## Towards Dolpa

# IN SEARCH OF SHEY-PHOKSUNDO

*We all had same expression  
screaming,*

**“THIS VALLEY IS  
FANTASTIC!”**

---

**IF IN A NUTSHELL, WE WERE  
TO DESCRIBE THIS FOREST, WE  
WOULD SAY IT IS A LAND FULL  
OF COLORS.**

**T**ravelling to Dolpa had been a long-lived dream for all of us and we were very excited to bring that to reality. The stories, photos, blogs, and YouTube videos of people who had experienced the serenity of Dolpa had already bolstered our excitement to another level. Although our expectations were high, the reality of our experience far exceeded them.

This journey combined some of the best of what travel has to offer: dusty off roads, dense green forest, crystal clear water, diversity of landscapes and of course the pure Shey Phoksundo Lake. Each day felt like a different experience, a discovery!

Amongst a few alternative routes to Dolpa, we choose to travel via road and a long trek to Shey Phoksundo. This route

offered us one of the longest road trips of our lives, where we continuously travelled for 2 days to reach Dolpa. The first day of the road trip up to Rukum via Jajarkot was comparatively a lot easier. The second day from Rukum to Dolpa was all off-road travel along the banks of Bheri River. On the way from Kathmandu to Dolpa we came across many beautiful places and experiencing different cultures and traditions. Therefore, it is highly recommended to travel to Dolpa on the roads.

Our trek began from third day where we entered the most amazing forest that anyone of us had ever witnessed. The moment we entered the forest, we all had the same expression screaming, ‘This valley is fantastic!’



The majestic view of Shey-Phoksundo river in between the forest was very special because it was one of the bluest and clearest rivers we had ever seen. The fast-flowing river made us feel like it was flowing directly from heaven. Moreover, the green dense forest, the cleanest crystal water and the blue sky up top with glimpses of White Mountains added much to the beauty of the forest.

If in a nutshell, we were to describe this forest, we would say it is a land full of colors. The walk along the forest to Shey-Phoksundo lake was definitely a fabulous journey and a walk to remember for the rest of our lives.



The walk continued for three days and every day we were experiencing something new. Towards the end of our walk was the largest waterfall of the country, Shey-Phoksundo waterfall that welcomed us at the gateway to Shey-Phoksundo lake. It was a cold windy day when we got our first view of Shey-Phoksundo lake. Each one of us was elated to see the blue lake in front of our eyes. The lake is the bluest and is famous for having a 'Y' shaped structure. The lake was surrounded by hills from all the sides and mountain tips were openly visible. We spent an entire day by the lakeside as the colour of water in Shey-Phoksundo changed with the time of the day.

The feeling of having lived the long dream to travel to Dolpa to witness the Shey-Phoksundo lake is still second to none. At last and once again, each one reading this experience is highly recommended to travel to Shey-Phoksundo at least once in their lifetime. The experience is priceless!

**Text & Photographs by:**  
Biraj Khanal



# पुर्ख्यौली बुढो घर

-जनार्दन अधिकारी धड्कन

जीवनको इन्द्रेणी सपनाले  
हरेक वर्ष दशैमा रडको सट्टमा कमेरो पोतेर  
सिगारिदै दंग पदै टाढाबाट हेरिरहन्छ  
त्यो बुढो घर,  
ढुङ्गा माटोको त्यो बुढ्यौली घर  
हजुरबाको स्वामित्वबाट सदै सदै आइरहेछ ।  
मेरो भन्ने शब्द करौंतीले  
औशवण्डामा चिराचिरा पारेको छ  
गैरी खेत र सिङ्गो घर,  
मलाइ वाले भन्नु हुन्थ्यो,  
नब्बे सालको भूकम्प पछि बनेको हो यो घर,  
बहत्तरको भूकम्पले शहरका गगन्चुम्बी  
महलहरू ढले, भत्के, चिरा परे  
तर, त्यो बुढो घरले परास्त गर्यो कम्पनको लडाईं,  
युद्ध जितेर खुसी दिएको छ नयाँ पुस्तालाई,  
नयाँ पुस्ताहरू भने,  
कल्पनामा चित्र कोरेर  
रङ्ग भरिरहेछन्,  
शहरको रमभममा जीवनलाई नै,  
सपनाको नशा सँगै निलिरहेछन् ।

बैश ठल्लै लाग्दा पनि  
बाबुकै कमाइमा विहे पर्खेर  
ऋणको बोझ थपिरहेछन् बृद्ध बा,आमालाई,  
लालपुर्जा अधिकार मागेर बेचन खोज्दैछन्,  
विदेशमा फल्ने पैसा टिप्न त्यो बुढो घर !!  
उनीहरूलाई आफ्नो पाखुरीसंग विश्वास छैन,  
माटो भित्र स्वदेशमै पैसा फल्छ, भन्ने स्वीकार्दैनन्  
स्याउ फल्ने बोटमा जस्तै फल्छ भन्छन् विदेशमा पैसा  
अनी टिप्न हतारिन्छन्  
आफ्नो पखेटाको भरमा चरा उडेको देखेर  
चरा जस्तै उड्न खोज्छन् त्यो निलो आकाशमा  
अन्ततः करेशावारी सहितको त्यो बुढो घर बन्धकी राखेर  
मेन पावरको खाता भरिदिन्छन् ।  
परिचय हराउने डरमा राहदानी खल्तीमा राखेर,  
अनी उड्छन् चरा जस्तै आकाशमा,



खुसीले धर्तीलाई बाइबाइ गर्दै ।  
सायद विसेको हुनु पर्छ  
भाग्य छाँया सँगै हिड्छ  
कर्म बिहिनलाई पिट्छ  
कर्मको खेती गर्ने ठाउँमा  
आशाको खेती गर्नेले,  
चित्रको परिकार मात्र स्वादिष्ट मानी खानु पर्छ ।  
मनमा उब्जेको अन्नले सँधैको भोक टार्नु पर्छ ।  
उसले बिसियो कर्मको खेती,  
आशाकै खेती गर्न विदेशीयो  
पल्लारे माइलो जस्तै,  
समयको अन्तरालमा फर्कदा,  
रातो बाक्सा भित्र आफै भरिएर फर्कन्छन् ।  
त्यो बेला नदी किनारमा प्रियसी  
वालुवा चालिरहेकी हुन्छे  
छोरो गिटी कुटीरहेको हुन्छ,  
फर्केर आउनेले कसैलाई देख्दैन  
मात्र देख्छ त्यो बुढो घरले रातो बाक्सा  
स्तब्ध हुन्छ,  
आवाज नदिइकन आँसु नबगाइकन  
रुन्छ बुढो घर!!! बुढो घर!!!  
बेसहारा बन्छ बुढो घर,  
पुर्ख्यौली बुढो घर ।





# Immuno Mango+



तपाईंको **Immunity** को लागि



*Victory of good over evil*  
**DASHAIN**



Popularly also known as Vijaya Dashami, the biggest festival of Nepal, Dashain is celebrated to rejoice victory of good over evil. According to Hindu mythology, Goddess Durga killed the demon, Mahisasura on 10th day of the festival after fighting with the demon for 9 consecutive days and nights. Therefore, the nine days are also known as 'Nava Ratri' and people worship at different temples of Goddess Durga till ninth day. The festival ends on full moon night on 15th day. As such, Dashain is the grandest, longest and most auspicious festival celebrated in Nepal which is also quite similar to Chinese Spring festival. According to another interesting mythological belief, the festival is also celebrated to mark victory of Lord Ram (a major deity in Hinduism) over Ravana (a demon king).

Dashain is generally celebrated during Nepali month of Ashwin which falls in between the month of September to October according to

solar calendar. This year the festival will be celebrated from October 07 to October 20 as per the English calendar.

The first day of the festival, Ghatasthapana is celebrated by installing a holy vessel (pot/Kalash) for sowing seeds of Jamara (long yellowish sacred grass). The next important day is seventh day known as Fulpati which literally means flowers and leaves. Traditionally, the Brahmin priests bring royal Kalash, banana stalks, Jamara and sugar cane tied with red clothes to Kathmandu from Gorkha. Also, a parade is organized on this day by the Nepal Army which is attended by the President and other high ranking officials as Fulpati arrives Kathmandu. It is a century-long tradition performed by Nepal Army. Weapons are fired in the honor of Fulpati which is then transferred to Hanuman Dhoka.

Maha Asthami, the eighth day is celebrated by



worshipping Goddess Durga and Goddess Kali. On this day, many animals and birds are sacrificed by devotees to offer blood to the Goddess. It is also known as Kaal Ratri (the dark night). The ninth day is known as Maha Navami which is the day of Vishwakarma (God of creativity) when people worship their vehicles and machinery items including household weapons like knife, axe, khukuri and so on. The most auspicious day is the tenth day which is called Vijaya Dashami when elders of the family put tika and Jamara and offer gifts and money as blessings to younger ones. People visit their relatives and get blessings from their elders for 4 more days and the festival ends on fifteenth day, also known as Kojagrat Purnima. It is also believed that on the 15th night Goddess Laxmi (the goddess of wealth) blesses those who remain awake the whole night.



Photograph by : Shreeya Prachananga



Apart from the religious and mythological belief, people of Nepal also take Dashain as a time for family reunion and get together. Most offices, schools and institutions remain closed during this festival and people rejoice with their loved ones. Flying kites, playing cards, shopping for new clothes, playing on swing are some fun-filled activities that people do to enjoy amongst themselves.

After 15 days long celebration of Dashain, people start getting back to their normal life. The festival is soon followed by another grand festival, Tihar.



# FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS: TIHAR

Tihar, the festival of lights is also one of the most celebrated festivals which ranks second to Dashain. It is remarked as the festival of lights because people light oil lamps, candles and lanterns in their houses and shops throughout the festival and it is celebrated for 5 days. Tihar is also known as Deepawali, Yamapanchak or Swanti. This festival honors the Yama (God of death) and is also dedicated for worshipping Goddess Laxmi (Goddess of wealth).

Celebrated during Nepali month of Kartik, Tihar falls in between month of October and November as per the solar calendar. It will be celebrated from November 3 to November 6 in 2021. Among various popular stories about Tihar celebration, the most famous one is related to Yama and his sister Yamuna who stayed away from each other for a long time. Yamuna wanted to meet her brother and so she used various sources to message him asking to visit her. She sent crow, dog, and cow and at the end she went herself to see her brother. She, then worshipped him with tika and flowers.



While doing so, she also made a circle with mustard oil, dubo (a type of green grass) and put Makhmali mala (garland) and asked her brother not to go till the oil, dubo and mala dry up. Therefore, sisters are said to be worshipping their brothers every year following this tradition.

Another venerated Hindu mythological logic behind the celebration of Tihar is that Lord Rama along with his wife Sita and brother Lakhsman returned back to his homeland after 14 years of exile. The villagers therefore, lit the entire village with bright oil lamps for Rama who had defeated the demon king Ravana before his return. Similarly, Deepawali





also marks the day when Lord Krishna defeated the demon, Narakasura and freed people of his kingdom declaring it as a day of festivities.

In Nepal, the first day of Tihar is called Kaag Tihar when crows, also known as messengers/informants of Yama are worshipped by offering food early morning. On the second day, dogs are worshipped on Kukur Tihar as they are considered to be agents of Yama.

On the third day, cows are worshipped early morning and Laxmi Puja is done during evening to worship the Goddess of wealth, Laxmi. People clean their houses, shops and surroundings and light oil lamps and electric lights to make their place look bright and beautiful and welcome the Goddess. They also make delicacies, sweets and colorful Rangoli in front of their houses to please the Goddess. Young women and kids go from one house to another singing and dancing to collect gifts and money as offering which is called Bhailo or Bhailini.

The fourth day is dedicated to worshipping oxen (Goru puja) and also known as Mha Puja in the Newar community which means to worship one's own self. On this day, young men go on singing and dancing like the women and kids do the

earlier day which known as Deusi.

The last day of Tihar is called Bhai Tika which is also known as festival of brothers and sisters who exchange multi-colored tika and splendid garlands. They also exchange gifts, money and offerings as a symbol of love and blessings for each other. One interesting fact about the day is that Rani Pokhari temple located in the heart of Kathmandu city remains open for general public which is otherwise closed whole year round. The temple remains open for those who do not have any brothers or sisters. The festival comes to an end with Bhaitika.

Therefore, Tihar is one of the most popular festival in Nepal because people cover the streets and buildings with festive lighting and enjoy with lively songs and dance. Dazzling fireworks go off around cities which is believed to scare away evil spirits and symbolical celebration of victory of good over evil.







# DEDICATED TO THE SUN

## CHHATH PARVA

Also known as Dala Chhath and Surya Shasthi, Chhath parva is mostly celebrated by married women from Mithila region of both Nepal and India. Worshiping the Sun or Surya (in Sanskrit) is the major essence of this exotic festival. The most attractive element of Chhath is to observe magnificent view of people gathering at banks of rivers and ponds for holy baths, prayers and worshipping the Sun while also fasting.

The festival starts soon after Tihar ends and is celebrated for 4 days from Kartik Shukla Chaturthi to Kartik Shukla Saptami which falls in between October and November according to the solar calendar. This year in Nepal, Chhath Parva holiday has been declared on November 10, 2021.

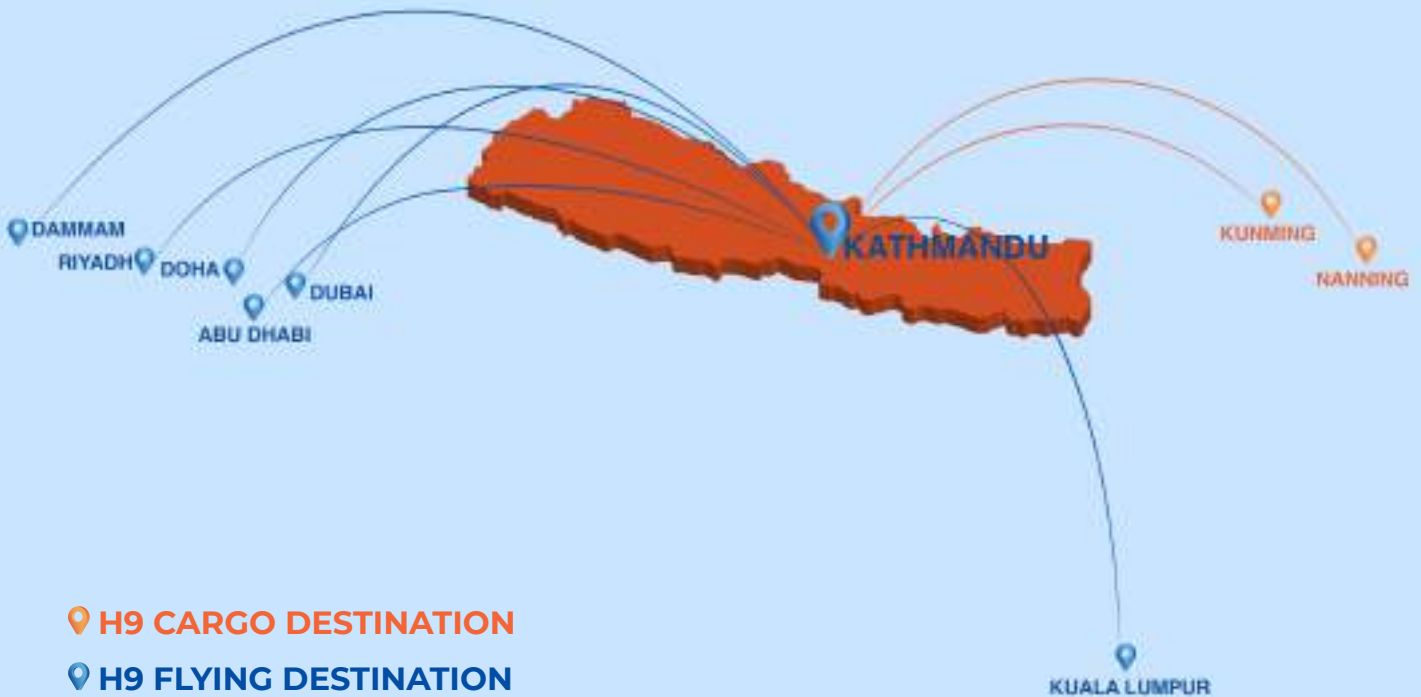
The Sun is believed to be ultimate source of power, energy, life-force and healing which helps to cure illness and diseases. It is also a token of stability and prosperity and hence, people worship the Sun for longevity and prosperity of family members, friends and beloved ones.

There are some very interesting and lesser known facts about this festival. Among the very few festivals, celebration of Chhath has been duly mentioned in both Mahabharata and Ramayana. Unlike other festivals, it is also supported and backed up by science as it is related to the concept of detoxification and revitalization of one's body which allows absorption of Vitamin D. People performing rituals of

Chhath do not eat non-vegetarian food and even while breaking the fast they do not eat salty food. Chhath is also one of the rarest festival in which God's idol is not worshipped.

On the first day, Naha Kha, devotees take a holy dip in water and also take water from river or pond to their homes to keep away bad energies. They fast for whole day and only eat during evening after the Sun sets. Lohanda or Kharna is the second day when devotees take an early bath, worship the Sun and start their fast. The devotees sing and dance during day and again worship the setting Sun to end the day's fast. The devotees continue their fast on third day known as Sandhya Argha. The entire day is spent doing puja and preparing special delicacies (Prashad) such as Thekuwa, coconut, banana, and other seasonal fruits. The devotees gather at river banks during evening to perform special sunset puja. The fast is not broken on this day and continued till next day. On the last day, Paran, families and devotees reach river banks early morning to worship the rising Sun. After offerings are presented, the fast is finally broken and the festival is concluded.

This holy festival is a definitely special one for people residing in the Terai belt of Nepal. It is also considered to be an eco-friendly festival which is celebrated to gain physical, mental as well as spiritual purity.



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On July 07, 2021, Himalaya Airlines launched its online ticket booking engine, which allows customers to make booking on its website <https://him-air.com>. This platform available on the desktop and mobile is all about connecting people to H9 destinations.

For passengers and guests who are new to the concept of online ticket booking, it is a software solution that allows potential passengers to self-book and pay through the website while also gaining information about features such as ticket price and seat availability, all in one place.

At the early stage of this service, customers with access to connect IPS are able to purchase and refund tickets along with availing other services such as flight and fare search, refunds and member service. There are also plans to launch other ancillary services like pre-book baggage, seat, meal selections, lounge, bundled fares, SMS notification, VISA/Master Card payment and web check-in through the upcoming phases.

There are some major benefits of introducing online booking. The most significant one is that our business and service is now open to the passengers 24/7, no matter the hour of operation. Our guests now have the convenience to book on their own, when it is right time for them- on the way to work, while waiting for water to boil or just sitting in anywhere doing last minute travel planning!

Through the B2C website customers can enjoy a simpler, faster and more convenient user experience for online ticketing. With this new service introduced, Himalaya is geared up to ensure seamless ticket booking experience for its valued customers.

Our doors are now always open for our guests!

---

**OUR GUESTS NOW HAVE THE  
CONVENIENCE TO BOOK ON  
THEIR OWN, WHEN IT IS RIGHT  
TIME FOR THEM ON THE WAY  
TO WORK, WHILE WAITING  
FOR WATER TO BOIL OR  
JUST SITTING IN ANYWHERE  
DOING LAST MINUTE TRAVEL  
PLANNING!**



## WE LOVE HEARING FROM OUR PASSENGERS

# THE INFLIGHT STORY

---

**WHY IS THAT EVEN  
SOMETHING TO CHEER  
ABOUT? I WAS THE ONLY  
PERSON IN THE FLIGHT.  
AND YES, I AM MERELY A  
COMMON MAN!**

I visited Nepal in April 2021 due to some personal reasons. The situation back then was moderately normal and rejuvenating: nationally and globally. However, the risk of pandemic outburst was moderate. The situation gradually worsened; lock down was posed by authorities and air travel was not possible.

I was trapped in my homeland with no get away. My approved leave of absence was over. After a month of struggle with various airlines that could potentially fly me to UAE, I found the facebook page of Himalaya Airlines. Without much hope, I wrote a message and explained my travel scenario. Instantly, I got a reply. Hats off. That was a breakthrough!

I appreciate the H9 officer who was enduring to understand my complex travel scenario. My concerns were forwarded to relevant H9 team. It was all history after that.

The team led by Mr. Neeraj Sharma (H9 Commercial) was on my case; considerate and willing to understand the travel scenario despite Nepal was in UAE's red list status. Persistence





pays off and so did Siraj Muneer's (H9 Dubai's Airport Manager) persistence to get approval from UAE authorities. I was provided with approval to fly on H9 for Kathmandu-Dubai sector on 14 July 2021. Why is that even something to cheer about? I was the only person in the flight. And yes, I am merely a common man!

Every time I recite this story, I am asked how much did I pay for it. I answer, 'I only paid the off-season normal fare. And the entire space was for myself'.

Deal, correct? This made me feel  
The in-flight experience was pleasant. The crew members were hospitable and professional. The 3-hour-flight went by instantly. Moreover, I was amazed by the after-sales service of Siraj Muneer (H9 Dubai's Airport Manager) who ensured I was escorted safely out of Dubai International Airport. He made sure that my safety outside the aircraft and ascertained that I did not face any problem with the immigration and other host authorities.

H9 helped me when I was helpless. Therefore, even if situation betters and bigger airlines travel to and from Nepal, I would always prefer to travel with H9. Because a friend in need is a friend indeed!

No bigger airlines would afford to give a pre-sales, sales, and post-sales service like H9. I truly wish H9 the best for upcoming years.

Omkar Neupaney  
Financial Management Office  
U. S. Embassy, Abu Dhabi

# WHAT'S IN THE STORE FOR YOU?

## HOROSCOPE TRAITS



### ARIES

March 21<sup>st</sup> – April 19<sup>th</sup>

Your upcoming months are propitious for starting new projects. You should take your friends and family members into confidence to accomplish whatever you want. Go by your intuition and you will succeed.

Venus will make your love relationships exotic. It is important to give love, and Aries personality will get it back manifold. It is time to focus on love, away from career and business activities.



### TAURUS

April 20<sup>th</sup> – May 20<sup>th</sup>

Do not dwell on past events. You should pay attention to the present and make use of the new openings you are presented with. Initially it will be turbulent, and then things improve drastically. Love relationships will be supportive for your actions.

It is necessary for Taurus personality to keep social contacts in the loop. Sharing with them your problems will surely reduce your tensions.



### GEMINI

May 21<sup>st</sup> – June 20<sup>th</sup>

Review your past actions and prepare yourself for the present. Things will take shape by the end of the quarter, so be patient! You have to be enthusiastic and meticulous if you want stellar support to accomplish your projects.

It is time to review your friendships and maintain contact with a few reliable friends who will be able to help Gemini personality when required.



### CANCER

June 21<sup>st</sup> – July 22<sup>nd</sup>

You will be courageous to venture into new things. Planetary support is available for many of your activities if you shed your sensitivity and indulge in better communication with others.

The upcoming days shall be propitious for career growth and personal activities. Make use of your sixth sense to achieve what you want.



### LEO

July 23<sup>rd</sup> – August 22<sup>nd</sup>

There may be problems in personal relationships. However, career prospects are wonderful. You should devote more time to your married life. After a few days, career projects will gain momentum.

You will be able to have good relationship with your spouse in December. This is a good time to have a baby.



### VIRGO

August 23<sup>rd</sup> – September 22<sup>nd</sup>

The time ahead is quite promising. Try to make use of opportunities you come across. Take the right action based on your experience.

There will be many opportunities for enjoying festivals and socializing. Virgo personality can also expect additional jobs. You can expect more enthusiasm and vigor in your actions.



# Know your zodiac signs with personality traits, relationship details and prospect during the last quarter (October-December) for 2021.



## LIBRA

September 23<sup>rd</sup> – October 22<sup>nd</sup>

The upcoming months will provide you with many openings. Make use of them without hesitation. Expect to accomplish your goals. The focus should be on your social engagements. There will be many chances to enlarge your social group.

Family affairs will be on your radar, and Libra personality enjoy the company of loved ones.



## SCORPIO

October 23<sup>rd</sup> – November 21<sup>st</sup>

You will be successful in whatever you do. There will be complete harmony on the relationship front. You will be able to take others into confidence.

You will have your partner's support in whatever you do. The last month will be very much beneficial. You have to proceed with self-assurance in whatever you do.



## SAGITTARIUS

November 22<sup>nd</sup> – December 21<sup>st</sup>

The quarter will be full of action. But you do not have the necessary energy to follow up the opportunities. Focus on your health and preserve your energy. You will find good travel opportunities to boost your finances.

Sagittarius personality will be more enthusiastic and there will be plenty of optimism during the last week of December.



## CAPRICORN

December 22<sup>nd</sup> – January 19<sup>th</sup>

It will be a propitious time for starting new projects. Love life can be made more harmonious by making a few adjustments. Take a few breaks to replenish energies.

These can be used for the expansion of business activities or can be invested in profitable savings.



## AQUARIUS

January 20<sup>th</sup> – February 18<sup>th</sup>

A number of opportunities for growth are coming your way. Grab them and proceed with courage. It favors good relationships and they go a long way in your success. .

There will be appreciation by others of your wonderful qualities. There will be support from family members for your activities.



## PISCES

February 19<sup>th</sup> – March 20<sup>th</sup>

There will be fantastic openings and you should not hesitate to take them up. Be persistent and accomplish your projects. There will be significant alterations in your life. Accept them graciously and move ahead!

Success in your ventures is assured because of your capabilities. Enjoy life with the loved ones by sharing your successes!

# पोखरातिर बरालिँदा..

“ओई फलाना... छुट्टीमा कता घुम्न जाने?”  
“पोखरा जाम्ना!”

साँच्चै नै सो प्रश्न र सो उत्तर घुम्न जाँऊ भन्दा प्रायसः छुट्टीमा घुम्न जाने र जान चाहनेहरुको माझ एकदमै सामान्य छ । नहोस् पनि किन र ? पोखरा ठाँउनै छ, यस्तो सुन्दर ! प्रायसः काठमाडौँ जसलाई धुलोमान्दु पनि भनेर हामी नेपालीले उपनाम दिईसक्यौँ, त्यसका बासिन्दा हामीलाई पोखराको स्वच्छ हावापानी र ऐना सरि आँखाको सामुनेनै टलटल गरि अडिग रहेका अन्नपुर्ण हिमश्रृङ्खला देख्न पाउँदा कसरी मन नै फुरुङ्ग नहोला । त्यसमाथि पोखरा को विशेषता दिनमा जति गर्मी भएपनि अपरान्ह तिर पानी परेर शितला दिने हो । मौसम, प्रकृति, हावापानी, रहनसहन,



संस्कृति सबै रितिले मन लोभ्याउने छ पोखरा ! सात तालको सहर पोखराले जो जो कोहीलाई पनि मोहनी लगाएको छ र लगाउँछ भन्ने कुरामा त्यसैले कुनै आश्चर्य मान्नु पर्दैन ।

पोखरा घुम्न जाँउ न भन्दा धेरै जसो आन्तरिक र बाह्य पर्यटक लेकसाइड र साराङकोटकमा बडी होमिने गरेका छन् ! मेरो आफ्नो घरमा पोखरा घुमौ वा भनौँ पोखरा जाऊँ भन्यो भने पनि “कति जाने पोखरा? त्यै लेकसाइड, साराङकोट, देविस फल कति जाने?” भन्नुहुन्छ । हुन पनि पर्यटकहरुले घुम्न जानु पुर्व “recommended things to do” मा यिनै ठाँउहरु नै पर्छन् ! पोखरामा रहेको तालबाराही मन्दिर, डुङ्गा चड्ने, प्याराग्लाइडिङ, चमेरो गुफा, पिस पागोडा, बिन्दवासिनी मन्दिर दर्शन र लेकसाइडको रात्री जीवन- प्राय पोखरा भन्ने वित्तिकै पोखरा घुम्न जाने पर्यटकहरुले यहि सोच्नुहुन्छ । कामको शिलशिलामा म पोखरामा साढे २ वर्ष बसें र मैले पनि पहिले पोखरा सानो छ, धेरै घुम्ने ठाँउ नै छैन सोच्यौँ । शनिवार र आईतबारको छुट्टीमा कुनै दिन घुम्न निक्कले भनेको पनि सुरुको वर्षमा त लेकसाइडतिर मात्र थियो। तर जब कोरोना आयो र बाहिरि जिल्ला जानमा निषेधाज्ञा भयो त्यस बेलामा पोखरा मैले सोचेको भन्दा निकै नै ठुलो पाएँ अनि पोखरामा घुम्न भन्दा पनि बरालिन मलाई साह्रै रमाइलो लाग्यो । त्यसपछि शनिवार र आईतबार भनेको मेरो लागि



बरालिने दिनहरुमा पर्न थाले । सार्वजनिक यातायातमा समय अलि बेसीनै लाग्छ, त्यसैले आफ्नो साधन हुँदा निकै नै सहज हुन्छ ।

लेकसाइडमा मोटरबाइक, स्कुटर, साइकल सजिलैसँग भाडामा लिन सकिन्छ । मैले पनि बरालिँदा स्कुटर प्रयोग गरें । त्यसैले एकलै बरालिँदा मलाई डर लागेन र GPS प्रयोग गरी धेरै ठाँउ बरालिएँ । कति पटक त एउटै बाटो फनफनी पनि घुँमे र अन्त्यमा त्यहाँका लोकलहरुलाई सोधेर पनि गन्तव्य तिर पुंगे । नयाँ मान्छेहरुलाई बाटो उस्तै लाग्ने र भुक्किने समस्या चै पक्कै नै बेसी हुन्छ ।

यसरी पढ्दै जाँदा अब पोखरामा अरु कुन ठाँउ छ त त्यस्तो र कता बरालिँने भन्ने कौतुहलता त अवश्य नै धेरै भयो होला । यो कौतुहलता मेट्न, म सुरुमा “पामे” को नाम लिन्छु । लकडाउन देखी लोकप्रियता कमाइराखेको ठाँउ हो पामे । कर्माको सनडाउन, कोको बिच, दुना टपरी जस्ता रेस्टुरेन्टहरुले स्थानिय तथा अन्य पर्यटकलाई निकै नै आकर्षित गर्दै आएको छ । प्रत्येक रेस्टुरेन्टका आफ्नै किसिमका विशेषता छन् पामेमा । पामेबाट अलिक उँभो लागेपछि खपौदि भन्ने ठाँउ छ । खपौदि एरियामा माछा पालन गरिन्छ र fishing मन पर्ने र अनुभव गर्न चाहनुहुनेहरुको लागी खपौदिले आकर्षण गर्न सक्छ । यता आउनु भएपछि माछा चाख्न नबिसनु होला साह्रै मीठो छ ।

फेवा पावर हाउस पनि ह्यामसाइडबाट नजिकै रहेको अर्को रमणीय घुम्न लायकको स्थल हो । यहाँ गर्मीमा भरनाको पानीमा र बगेको खोलामा पौडी खेलै रमाउनेहरु धेरै भेट्न सकिन्छ । साथै चौर पनि भएकाले साथीभाइहरुको लोकप्रिय पिकनिक थलो पनि हो पावरहाउस । अब लागौं हामी पुम्दि भुम्दि तिर ! छोरेपाटन, गुप्तेश्वर महादेव र देविस फल भएको ठाँउबाट सिद्धार्थ हाइवे तिर सिधा लाग्ने र छोरेपाटन देखी करिब ६-७ कि.मी. मा पुम्दि भुम्दिको शिवमूर्ति भएको



ठाँउमा पुग्न सकिन्छ । टिकटकमा धेरैले देखनु भयो होला भगवान शिवको डाँडाको टुप्पामा रहेको मुर्ती । धार्मीक आस्था र आनन्दित मनको लागी पुम्दी भुम्दि पनि एक गन्तव्य हो । पिस पागोडा पुगेर पनि यता पुग्न सकिन्छ । छोरेपाटन पुगेपछि कृशी त छुटाउनै नहुने ठाँउ हो । हिमशृङ्खलाको मनमोहक दृश्य त छदैछ यहाँको अर्को विशेषता भनेको सुन्तला हो । साथै पिकनिकको लागी पनि यो ठाँउ उपयुक्त मानिन्छ ।

त्यसपछि लागौं हामी मेटलाड डाँडा तिर । बाग्लुङ बसपार्क देखि करिब ७ कि.मी. पश्चिममा रहेको छ मेटलाड डाँडा । यसले अहिले धेरै नै आगन्तुकहरु बटुलिरहेको छ । डाँडा पुग्न अघि रहेको पार्क र मेटलाडको टुप्पोबाट पुर्व तिर देखिने पोखरा उपत्यका, दक्षिणमा देखिने फेवा र पामेको दृश्य र प्याराम्लाइडरका चरा भैँ आकाशमा देखिने प्यारासुटका ताँती ! मेटलाड अहिलेको समयमा चर्चाको होडबाजीमा प्रतिश्रध्दात्मक छ । अब लागौं काहु डाँडा तिर । काहु डाँडा भनेको





मनिपाल अस्पताल माथि रहेको डाँडा हो । काहु डाँडामा भएको भ्यु टावरले काहु डाँडालाई पहिचान दिएको छ । काहु डाँडा साराङकोट भन्दा भन्डै १५० मी. होचो छ तर काहुवाट अन्नपुर्ण हिमशृङ्खलाको मनमोहित पार्ने दृश्यमा कुनै कोणबाट पनि पछि छैन । व्यक्तिगत रूपमा भन्नु पर्दा मलाई साराङकोट भन्दा पनि काहुवाटको हिमशृङ्खलाको दृश्य निकै नै राम्रो लाग्छ । सुन्नमा आएको थियो, त्यहाँ बुद्ध भगवानको विशाल प्रतिमाको स्थापना गर्ने योजना पनि छ अरे । काहु डाँडा पोखारको लोकप्रिय पिकनिक स्थल पनि हो ।

अब काहुवाट भर्दै आउँदा बाँया लागेर हामी माटेपानी गुम्बा जान सक्छौं । माटेपानी गुम्बा एरिया पनि स्थानीय लोकप्रिय पिकनिक स्थल हो । अब लागौं त्यहाँबाट अझै पूर्व बेगनास ताल तिर । फेवा भन्दा ठुलो भए तापनि बेगनास तालले फेवाको जस्तो लोकप्रियता पाएको छैन तर पनि छुट्टै लोकप्रियता छ । बेगनास ताल पुग्न पोखरा जाँदा जाँदै हाइवेमा पर्ने तालचोक बाट दाँया तिर लाग्नु पर्छ । त्यहाँबाट करिब ६ कि.मि. को यात्रा पछि बेगनास पुग्न सकिन्छ । बेगनास शान्त छ र यहाँ ढुङ्गा चड्नुको मज्जा पनि छुट्टै छ ।

“निर जहिले रिसाउने” गित त हामी सबैलाई याद छ होला । “पुरानो ढुङ्गा” नामक फिल्मको सुटिङ पनि यतै गरिएको थियो र छायांकन गरिएको सो घर पनि यताबाट पुग्न सकिन्छ । बेगनासमा विहान पुग्नु भयो भने तालको आलो माछा किन्न सकिन्छ । बेगनासको माछा पनि लोकल स्वादिष्ट खानामा पर्छ । तसपछि बेगनासकै वरिपरि पर्ने अर्को जानै पर्ने ठाँउ भनेको माफिकुना हो । माफिकुना ग्रिल्ड फिसको लागि निकै नै प्रख्यात छ । आजकल

टिकटक भिडियो र फोटोहरुले गर्दा पनि माफिकुनालाई धेरै रुचाइएको छ ।

बेगनासको छेउमै रहेको रुपा ताललाई त बेगनास पुगेपछि कसरी मिस गर्नु ? बेगनास देखि भित्री बाटोबाट सिर्फ ११.५ कि.मी. मा रहेको यो रुपा ताल अझै नै एकान्त छ । यसको धेरै प्रचार प्रसार र बेगनास फेवा एरियामा जस्तो होटेल रेस्टुरन्ट र सार्वजनिक साधन नपुग्ने भएकोले पनि एकान्तमय भएको हुन सक्छ । प्रायसः आगन्तुकहरु रुपाकोट रिसोर्ट जान्छन् र त्यहाँबाट चाही तीनवटै तालको हिमशृङ्खला सहितको मनमुद्रित पार्ने दृश्यको आनन्द लिन्छन् । तीनवटै तालमा सबैभन्दा मीठो माछा चाही रुपा तालको हो अरे । किनभने यहाँको Phytoplankton र तालमा पाउने nutrients अन्त भन्दा भिन्न छ अरे । मलाई पनि रुपाको माछाको भोल र भात अन्त भन्दा निकै मन परेको थियो । २ रात ३ दिनको सप्ताहन्त मनाउनलाई आउनुहुने आगन्तुकहरुका लागी यी गन्तव्यहरु अतिरिक्त लोकप्रिय गन्तव्यहरु हुन सक्छन् । अझै थप दिनहरु बिताउन चाहनुहुन्छ भने पोखराबाट एक दिनमै पुग्न सकिने अस्थम, सिक्लेस गाँउ, घान्द्रुक गाँउ, धम्पुस गाँउ, अर्मलाकोट र पञ्चासे गाँउ पोखराको सेरोफेरोमा रहेका निकै नै रमणीय र गुरुङ संस्कृति, रहनसहनको अन्नपुर्ण हिमशृङ्खलासाथमा आनन्द दिने गन्तव्य स्थलहरु हुन् । पोखरामा घुम्नु हैन बरालिन आउनुहोस् । यसरी मैले जस्तै बरालिइ जाँदा धेरै नै नयाँ र रमणिय स्थलहरु पोखरामा अबलोकन गर्न सक्नुहुनेछ । सानो भएपनि पोखरामा घुम्न लायक र खोज गर्नु पर्ने स्थलहरु धेरै छन् ।

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# एकै छिन हाँसौ है त !

स्कूलको एउटा बिल्डिंगमा आगो लागेछ ।  
स्कूलको सबै बच्चा टाढाबाट हेर्दै “ ल अब स्कूल आउनु परेन ” भन्दै खुशी भईरहेका थिए तर त्यही बच्चाहरुको भिडमा एउटा बच्चा उदास थियो । त्यो देखेर एउटा टिचरले सोधेछ : बाबु तिमी किन उदास छौ ? अरु सबै त खुशी भईराखेका छन् त !

बिथार्थी: बिल्डिङ मा आगो लागेर के गर्नु सर तपाईं त जिउदै हुनुहुन्छ नि !

एकदिन शेर भगवानको तपस्या गर्दै रहेछ ।  
अचानक भगवान प्रकट भएछन अनि भनेछन ।

भगवान : त के चाहन्छस माग ?

शेर: एउटा जागिर, ठुलो गाडि र त्यसमा धेरै केटि नै केटि !  
भगवान: तथास्तु !

बिचरा शेर आज एउटा Girl's school मा बस ड्राइभर छ !

एउटा भ्यागुता ज्योतिषकोमा गएछ र आफ्नो भविष्य हेरि दिनु भनेछ ।

ज्योतिष: तेरो जीवनमा एउटी राम्री च्वाँक केटी आउनेछ अनि तेरो मुटु चोरेर लानेछ !!!

भ्यागुता: (खुशी हुँदै) त्यो केटी कहाँ भेट्छु त मैले ??

ज्योतिष : Biology को Practical Lab मा...  
भ्यागुता त ठाउँको ठाउँ बेहोश !!!

धुर्मुस आफुलाई खुब स्वर सम्राट मान्थ्यो ...यतिकैमा एकदिन एउटा किसानलाई गीत सुनायो...

केही बेरपछि किसान सुक-सुक गर्दै रुन थाल्यो

धुर्मुस: (मन मनै खुशी हुँदै) खुशी लाग्यो मेरो संगीतको राग बुझे तिमी मात्रै रहेछौ ।

किसान: म हजुरको गीत सुनेर रोएको होइन...

धुर्मुस: अनी किन त ?

किसान: पोहोर साल मेरो एउटा गोरु मर्यो, मर्ने बेलामा यस्तै स्वर निकालेको थियो ...आज मलाई मेरो गोरुको याद आयो अनी रोएको ।



# H9 UPDATES

## Himalaya Airlines joined hands with Yeti Airlines for network integration



**H**imalaya Airlines entered into a strategic business partnership with Yeti Airlines for integration of network, expansion of sales growth and gradual extension of support in e-commerce functionalities of both the companies on January 27, 2021.

Himalaya and Yeti have significant potential to bring in resources, build trust amongst the passengers and create efficiency in upcoming days. The partnership is expected to also explore, adopt and promote innovative ideas for potential passengers of both the airlines. After the completion of the implementation process, it shall facilitate different passenger segments of both the airlines making the products available in each other's website for easy accessibility where in the passengers will get the benefit to book connecting flights of their choice both nationally and internationally in the selective destinations that Himalaya Airlines, Yeti Airlines and Tara Air operate.

## Himalaya Airlines' support during COVID-19

**A**s a part of annual CSR commitment of 2020 towards Prayas Nepal, Himalaya Airlines donated yearlong supply of notebooks on the New Year Eve. Considering the then ongoing pandemic, the Airlines prudently added the COVID-19 essential supplies as well to the contribution. The contribution included 1,650 notebooks, two infrared thermometers, 24 bottles of hand sanitizers and 1,000 surgical face masks. A total of 27 students aged between 8 to 20 years received the yearlong school necessities to follow their academic courses.





## Himalaya transported vero cell vaccines for philanthropy



In the face of the second surge of COVID-19, Himalaya Airlines brought home 200,000 doses of Vero Cell vaccines donated by the Tibet Autonomous Region Government, PRC. Himalaya's Airbus 319-115, 9N-AJK operated four back-to-back flights to Kunming on Jun 01 & 02, 2021 for transporting vaccines in 417 boxes for free amounting to a total of US\$ 192,000.00 equivalent to Rupees 2.25 crores approx. Each flight ferried a maximum of 105 boxes per flight.

For the safe transportation of the COVID-19 vaccines, H9 team fulfilled all the requirements for compliance and followed well planned loading and transportation procedure to enhance the product safety.

## Adios Captain!



Himalaya Airlines family gave a fond adieu to H9's ace Line Captain Rabindra Purush Dhakal on September 14, 2021 who retired after serving five years in the company. Capt. Dhakal has a total of 19493.47 (approx.) flying hours in his belt, accomplished through approx. 40 years long career. Capt. Dhakal flew his last flight from Doha to Kathmandu as Pilot-In-Command completing 3493.47 hours flying with Himalaya Airlines since 2016.

H9 family heartily congratulates him for his well-earned and memorable aviation journey and extends best wishes for many more accomplishments in future!

## 'Teej Ko Rahar, Ayo Bari Layi'

H<sup>9</sup> celebrated womanhood with all the ladies staff at office premises on the day of 'Darr Khane Din' i.e. September 08, 2021. The ladies also received sustainable Teej Upahar.

The celebration was held complying with all the COVID protocols, ladies were adorned with beautiful traditional attires along with masks.

To spice up the festival, H9 organized two exciting photo competitions where H9 ladies were encouraged to click themselves in Teej Mood or Teej celebration moments and share the photos. Active participation was observed for both the competitions and winners were awarded with attractive cash prizes.





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